

$$3x + 4 = 28$$

You can solve for x by INSPECTION, or by SYSTEMATIC TRIAL

SYSTEMATIC TRIAL:

Solution:

I will try and pick random values for x, and substitute them in to see if I am right.

Try x=5     $3(5) + 4 = 15 + 4 = 19$     TOO SMALL

Try x=10     $3(10) + 4 = 30 + 4 = 34$     TOO BIG

Try x=8     $3(8) + 4 = 24 + 4 = 28$     CORRECT!

Therefore x=8

INSPECTION:

$$3x + 4 = 28$$

This means that 3 times a number, plus an extra 4, would equal 28.

I know that  $24 + 4$  would equal 28. That means that the  $3x$  must equal 24.

So I know that 3 times something = 24, and I know that three times 8 is 24, so the number is 8.

Therefore x=8